

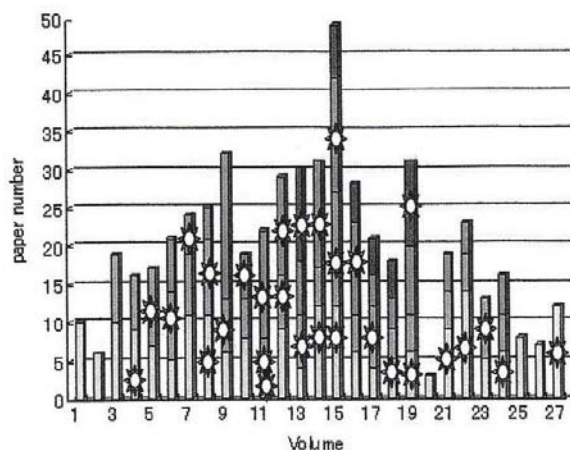


Fig. 1. Number of papers in Forma for each volume. Grey levels in columns indicate separate issues, and the star-like symbols indicates special issues.

processing.

This construction of chapters reflects the activities of the Society at the end of the last century, and the present author is not claiming that they cover all important topics. Interests of scientists vary with time, and new topics can appear among young scientists. What is important would be to publish monographs sometimes when we feel a need to summarize the results of research activities.

3.2 Publication of Forma

The present author would like to confess that he made the greatest efforts among jobs for the Society in keeping the level of the journal Forma during he was working as an editor-in-chief. Here, the level means that of quality of papers and also the quantity of accepted papers. Figure 1 shows the number of published papers in each volume until 2012, where grey levels of columns indicate separate issues in one volume. The issue with star-like symbol indicates that it is published as a special issue with a particular topic. This figure shows that about half of issues were special issues, and that the activity of publishing is enhanced by editing special issues. The number of papers attained a peak in the year 2000, which corresponds to the situation that the activity of the Society also attained its maximum level.

Some special issues were edited by foreign editors, as listed below with volumes-numbers, years and editors' names. One of them was reproduced as a monograph (11-3, 1996).

8-2 (1993) T. Sekimura and T. Murray: "Proc. Workshop on Morphogenesis",

10-3 and 11-1 (1995-6) P. K. Maini: "Travelling Waves in Biology, Chemistry, Ecology and Medicine",

11-2 (1996) G. Bernroeder: "Brain Views",

11-3 (1996) D. Weaire: "Kelvin problem" (reproduced as monograph by Taylor and Francis) (Weaire, 1997),

14-1 and 2 (1999) A. Mackay: "Crystal Souls" (English translation of the monograph by E. Haeckel with additional scientific papers),

14-4, 15-1 and 2 (1999-2000) T. Ogawa, S. Mitamura, R. Takaki and D. Nagy: "Proc. 2nd Int. KATACHI U SYM-

METRY Symposium",

19-1 (2004) G. Bernroeder, S. Roy and R. Takaki: "Brain Patterns behind the Physical Correlate of Mind",

19-4 (2004) J. Kappraff: "Golden Mean".

It is noted here in addition that we had a lot of submissions to Volumes 8-19, which were edited by foreign editors. These data are considered to be instructive for those who are engaged in editing scientific journals.

4. Concluding Remarks

In the preceding sections a lot of instructions, comments and propositions were given. The present author would like to list up some hints here, which are based on his own personal opinions.

(1) We are not isolated in the world, but are attracting attentions from foreign scientists. Note that full contents of papers of Forma are accessible through internet, and good papers will become known immediately. Therefore, international cooperation is always possible.

(2) The characters of the Society and Forma are quite interdisciplinary, and we should keep a flexible thinking and a naïve mind as young students do.

(3) Basically, progress of interdisciplinary activity is slow. Therefore, we need to be optimistic and have patience.

(4) In the interdisciplinary activity we have a lot of occasions where we discuss with scientists from different fields from ours. In those occasions we must be rather impudent while not losing politeness. At the same time we will be sometimes disappointed by failure of fruitful communication. We must be quick in recovering from this situation.

(5) Finally, it should be pointed out that we need to discuss on these problems in various occasions.

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